

AGENDA

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

April 17, 2019

Alderman Cataldo, School Committee

Member Freeman, Ald. Shaw,

Committee Member Ambrogi,

Committee Member Want

5:30 p.m.

Aldermanic Chambers

City Hall (3rd Floor)

1. Chairman Cataldo calls the meeting to order.
2. The Clerk calls the roll.
3. Discussion regarding the results of the Principal's Survey.
4. Discussion regarding the district budget.
5. If there is no further business, a motion is in order to adjourn.

APRIL 8, 2019

CITY CLERK

Principal Feedback: Achievements and Needs

February 28, 2019

Overview

As part of our budget preparation, we requested feedback from the administrative team from each of our schools. We asked that they share three accomplishments from the past year, and three additional resources that would make a significant impact. Response rates were excellent and by synthesizing the feedback, we were able to further clarify our budget needs as well as identify

In looking at the feedback we were able to identify themes in the responses. Overall, the needs are consistent across grade level and geography and most frequently requested were additional staffing, technology, curriculum and professional development.

Another common theme that was apparent in the staffing and professional development requests we received was a consistent need for additional resources to support our students with emotional behavior challenges.

What is interesting and quite positive, is that the successes vary greatly. This shows that their opportunities to increase the successes across our district.

Successes that were mentioned multiple times included positive progress in implementing iReady and in documented student growth from iReady diagnostics. Also, many of our schools noted school culture as one of their greatest accomplishments. In a time when the media frequently portrays schools as unsafe or unwelcoming places, this feedback is incredibly positive.

In deeper review of the needs requested, four areas were expressed most frequently:

Staffing

Staffing needs were shared most frequently and across all grade levels. Within the responses grouped as staffing, specific frequent responses were a need for additional paraprofessional support and a request to increase the compensation to attract more well qualified candidates, staff to assist with behavior support, classroom teachers and staff to coordinate extended learning opportunities.

Curriculum

There is a great need for curriculum. Administrators in our k8 schools shared that they need math curriculum. There were also several requests for reading/language arts curriculum and support.

Technology

Requests for additional technology were focused on needing additional devices for students and needing to replace end of life devices.

Professional Development

Requests for professional development included support for guided reading and providing resources on trauma sensitivity.

When reviewing the data by elementary school, middle school and high school, the need in each area overlap in many areas, though the needs requested most frequently vary in some cases.

Elementary School

- Additional paraprofessional support came up more than any other request
- Curriculum, specifically for math, but reading/literacy was also mentioned multiple times

Middle School

- Staffing to reduce class sizes and to provide academic support
- Curriculum for Math

High School

- Staffing for out of school learning
- Tech

Consolidated Feedback Results

School Level	Going Well	Needs
Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive school culture • iReady data • Created collaborative special ed model • Staff training • Strong EL team • Staff camaraderie • iReady implementation • Building Culture, students & staff • Leader in Me • Partnerships: SNHU, PSU • Positive School Culture • Enrichment Block • Staff: experience, commitment • WIN model • iReady data • Staff culture/expectations • Family Communication • iReady implementation • Team Data Chats • Leader in Me • K PAL's scores • Positive School Culture: • Student Access to books • iReady Scores • Positive School Culture • Extracurricular Opportunities • iReady preparation • iReady results • Extracurricular Opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing: AP, social worker, unified arts, math coach, swap para's for SPED teacher • Staffing: Para's • Instructional Time • Smaller Class Size • Smaller Kindergarten • Curriculum: Math • PD: Guided Reading • Staffing: Para's • Staffing: ED teacher • Curriculum: Math • PD: Trauma Sensitive • Para Compensation • Technology • Para Compensation • Curriculum: Math and Reading • PD: Math and Reading • Staffing: EBD • Curriculum: Literacy • PD: Literacy • Supply funds • Staffing: 3 classroom teachers, Special Ed • Curriculum: Math • Staffing: Case Managers, 5 Para's, Classroom teacher • Staffing: Curriculum Instructors for math and reading, social worker, math coach • Technology • Curriculum: Math • School Budget • Technology • Staffing: Para • Instructional Time

Middle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture • Advisory • PBL • iReady scores • Positive School Culture • Family Communication • Academic Improvement • PBL (80%) of students • iReady implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing: District Level C/I/A, Data Analyst, Special Ed Secretaries at Schools • Continuum of Care for identified students • Alternative Programs • Smaller Class Sizes • Curriculum: Math and Language Arts • Technology • Staffing: Math Interventionist • Alternative Placement • Alternatives to suspension (additional) • Curriculum: Math • Reading Plus Access • Technology • Staffing: Restorative Justice, (2) 6th grade teachers • PD: Trauma
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBL Plan • Partnerships: Girls Inc., My Turn, MPAL, Gear Up, NHIA, Currier, Barr • SAT Practice • Grad Rate • Dropout Rate • Postsecondary rates • Connecting Students to Alt. Plans • Graduation Rate • Redesign Progress • Reduction in Leveling • Model • Staff dedication • Admin/staff collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology • Staffing: ELO Coordinator • PD: Paid • Textbooks • Technology • Supplies • Staffing: Wider Ecosystem Coordinator, Attendance Coordinator • Mental Health Center/Staffing • Staffing: Admin, BLIL's • Extracurricular